



NEWS RELEASE

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FIRE SAFETY REMINDERS FOR RESIDENTS DURING FALL/WINTER MONTHS

Lincoln Fire and Rescue reminds residents to stay safe while spending more time in their homes during the fall and winter seasons. Fireplaces, wood burning stoves and space heaters are commonly used during the cooler months. It is not uncommon for people to forget how to safely operate these heating devices.

FIREPLACES:

Have chimneys professionally inspected and cleaned each year.

Use a sturdy fireplace screen when burning fires.

Burn only wood and NOT paper or pine boughs that can float out of the chimney and ignite your roof.

WOOD BURNING STOVES:

Stove connector pipes and chimney's should be inspected each year by a professional.

Use short hot fires rather than long smoldering ones.

Don't leave a stove unattended when children are present.

Never use gasoline, kerosene, charcoal starter or other flammables to start a fire.

Empty ashes into a metal container with a tight fitting lid. Keep containers off of combustible floors.

HEATERS:

(heaters can be portable or space heaters run by electricity, gas or kerosene.)

Keep all heaters at least 36 inches from anything that can burn.

Don't operate a space heater when you're not in the room or when you are sleeping.

Do not place anything over the heater to dry.

Check for fraying or splitting wires or overheating on electric space heaters. Have a professional make repairs.

Never use gasoline or other substitute fuels in a kerosene heater.

Turn off and cool down the heater before adding fuel and wipe up any fuel that has spilled.

Residents can find more fire safety tips and other valuable information on the Lincoln Fire and Rescue website at www.Lincoln.ne.gov. Keyword: Fire.